



State of Maryland

Advisory Council on Mental Hygiene/Planning Council

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary, DHMH

MARYLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON MENTAL HYGIENE/ PL 102-321 PLANNING COUNCIL

Minutes

February 19, 2013

Maryland Advisory Council Members: Gerald Beemer, M. Sue Diehl, Vice Chair; Mike Finkle, Joshana Goga, Dennis McDowell, Joanne Meekins, Robert M. Pender, Charles Reifsnider, Anita Solomon, John Turner

Maryland Advisory Council Members Absent: Richard Blair, Jaimi L. Brown, Sarah Burns, Chair, Michele Forzley, Livia Pazourek, Edwin C. Oliver, John Scharf, Sherrie Wilcox

Individuals highlighted as such are resigned members who have not yet been replaced.

PL 102-321 Council Members Present: Carol Allenza, Coordinator; Robert Anderson for Michael Ito, T.E. Arthur, Coordinator; Naomi Booker, Tracee Bryant, Herb Cromwell, R. Terence Farrell, Duane Felix, Victor Henderson, Adrienne Hollimon, Julie Jerscheid, Sarah Rhine, Michelle Stewart for Catherine Drake, Kathleen Ward

PL 102-321 Council Members Absent: Lynn Albizo, Kim Bennardi, Eugenia W. Conolly, Chicquita Crawford, Kate Farinholt, Vira Froehlinger, A. Scott Gibson, Gerri Gray, Alice Harris, Michael Lang, Sharon Lipford, George Lipman, Dan Martin, Cynthia Petion, Jacqueline Powell, Linda Raines, Sheryl Sparer, Jane Walker, Phoenix Woody

MHA Staff Present: Robin Poponne, Iris Reeves, Greta Carter

Guests and Others: Karl Steinkraus, ValueOptions®Maryland; Lisa Hadley, Mental Hygiene Administration/Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration; Tim Santoni, University of Maryland-Systems Evaluation Center; Ann Geddes, Maryland Coalition of Families; Penny Scrivens, Mental Hygiene Administration

c/o Mental Hygiene Administration

Spring Grove Hospital Center – 55 Wade Avenue – Dix Building – Catonsville MD 21228 – (410) 402-8473

TDD for Disabled – Maryland Relay Service (800) 735-2258

Healthy People in Healthy Communities

INTRODUCTIONS/ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

The meeting was called to order by Council Vice Chair, Sue Diehl. Attendees introduced themselves. The draft minutes of the January 15, 2013 meeting were approved. The minutes will be posted on the Mental Hygiene Administration's (MHA) Web site www.dhmmh.maryland.gov/mha. The Maryland Advisory Council on Mental Hygiene's link is listed under "Resources".

THE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Lisa Hadley, M.D., J.D., Clinical Director, Mental Hygiene (MHA)/ Alcohol and Drug Abuse (ADAA) Administrations, provided the following Director's Report:

Budget/2013 Legislative Session:

MHA's legislative hearings for the FY 2014 budget took place at the House on February 6th and in the Senate on February 7th. MHA's actual expenditures are within its appropriation. However, two cuts were made to the budget for services that required less funding - \$1.25 million from Purchase of Care beds and \$50,000 emergency petition services (EPS), which were unopposed by MHA. Enforcement of the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) which requires hospitals to provide care to anyone needing emergency treatment rather than discharging, transferring, or allowing them to stay for hours unattended, has reduced the cost-shifting of care to the mental health system, that was so prevalent a few years back, as well as the high number of individuals who were transferred to the system from hospital emergency rooms in need of purchase of care placements.

The Health Care Financing model (risk-based carve out) that was recommended by DHMH is under review. There is one counter proposal that wishes to place mental health and substance use service administrations under MCOs. This recommendation has not yet been processed.

New Funding or Expanded Programs:

Maryland was chosen as one of 13 states to participate in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities Project Rental Assistance (PRA) Demonstration. This Demonstration is designed to assist state housing agencies to expand integrated supportive housing opportunities for people with the most significant and long term disabilities and enables persons with disabilities who earn less than 30 percent of median income to live in integrated mainstream settings. The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) in partnership with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) and the Department of Disabilities (MDOD) and selected public housing authorities will administer the funding of \$10,917,383, which will serve up to 255 individuals.

ADAA Update:

ADAA is expanding its statewide opiate over dose program to reach more local jurisdictions. This program goal is to decrease opiate deaths through increased education, prescription monitoring and emergency response. The program is in tandem with Senate Bill 610 which provides for an Overdose Response Program overseen by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene which specifies requirements an individual must meet to receive a prescription for

Naloxone, a drug used to counter the often fatal effects of opiate overdosing on an opiate such as heroin or morphine.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Penny Scrivens, MHA's Housing Coordinator stopped by to bid the Council farewell as she is retiring this month. She filled in details concerning HUD's Project Rental Assistance (PRA) Demonstration (outlined above as part of Director's Report) and announced that the Weinberg Foundation donated additional funding, now totaling close to \$11,000,000, for tax credits to developers who will provide affordable, quality, independent, integrated housing opportunities for non-elderly individuals with disabilities at 30% or below AMI (Area Median Income) who pay 30% of their income for rent.

Ms. Scrivens has built an impressive body of work over the last 12 years as MHA's Housing Coordinator. Prior to that she enjoyed working with people in the areas of adult foster care and independent living. She has always shared her passion for her work and she will be missed.

STATE AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – Duane Felix, Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)

Mr. Felix shared information on the Group Home Financing Program (GHFP) and the Homeownership for individuals with Disabilities Program (HIDP). (Please see Attachment #1.)

The GHFP provides loans to providers to finance the costs of buying or renovating buildings to develop group homes or assisted living units for individuals with low-income who have a disability or have special housing needs. One such loan is the Special Housing Opportunities Program (SHOP) loan which is a 30 year Community Development Administration (CDA) Bond funding with an interest rate of 5.11%.

The HIDP assists individuals or parents of individuals with disabilities to purchase a home. Interest rates are low – 1.75 to 3.75% - and counseling and homebuyer education are included requirements.

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) also partners with DHMH and MHA through rental assistance projects and leveraging of DHMH Community Bond Funding which provide opportunities for individuals with mental illnesses to live in affordable, community homes.

Special Note:

Mr. Felix has transferred to the Neighborhood Revitalization division of DHCD and will no longer be able to attend Joint Council meetings. We thank him for his participation during Joint Council sessions and during the planning and Plan development meetings.

THE 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW – Updates from Community Behavioral Health Association (CBH), Mental Health Association of Maryland (MHAMD), and Maryland Coalition of Families for Children’s Mental Health (MCF) and Maryland Disability Law Center (MDLC)

Annapolis Day - A Family Day rally, sponsored by the Mental Health Coalition, took place on January 29, 2013. All mental health advocacy organizations were represented, holding open sessions with consumers and breakout sessions with selected legislators. The day culminated with a rally on the mall. Governor O’Malley visited with the Maryland Coalition of Families for Children’s Mental Health (MCF) during the morning and showed his support for legislation such as the Safety net act to expand crisis services and school-based mental health services.

The Legislative Session - CBH and MHAMD provided lists of action on proposed legislation for the 2013 session related to mental health. (See Attachments #2 and 3.) Herb Cromwell, Ann Geddes, MCF, and Sarah Rhine, MDLC, led discussions focused on bills which promoted:

- Changes in qualifications and disciplinary actions for professional counselors and therapists
- The State Budget bill - capital bond, and budget reconciliation and Financing Act - includes a \$5 million cut in community health services. CBH and other advocacy organizations will lobby against the cut. Also includes \$750,000 to be retained for start-up money to assist the development of health homes beginning in July.
- Video Lottery Funding toward mental health services and security in schools
- Public safety – prohibiting possession by individuals with mental illness and history of violence. Also possible 15 year felony for violation.
- Health Care Reform Implementation- last steps toward full implementation
- The Governor’s gun control bill – concerns for requirements that persons with mental disorders be reported to a national data base
- Duty to report risk of serious harm – Firearm safety – names the Director of MHA as a responsible party to whom clinicians would report indications of dangerousness
- Extension of task force into June 2014 to study access of individuals with mental illnesses to regulated firearms
- Task force on telehealth
- Allowance of reimbursement to providers for telemental health services delivered to Medicaid recipients
- Establishment of a commission to consider mental health related ways to limit mass violence by individuals with antisocial personality, depressive, or other mental health disorders
- Addition of a fee to every gun permit that would go into fund for mental health services
- Mental health evaluations – surrender of firearms
- Residential child care programs – community memorandum of understanding
- Education trust fund – to provide security personnel and equipment for mental health services in public schools

- Expungement of criminal records for individuals not criminally responsible
- Prevention of housing discrimination based on source of income
- Health insurance – federal and state mental health and addiction parity laws - compliance and distribution of information and rights
- Governor's Children's Cabinet study on health and social services needs of juveniles
- Task Force to Study Mental Illness Among Students in Public Schools
- Set limits on step therapy or fail first protocols prescription use
- Establishment of a Maryland Criminal Justice and State Behavioral Health Technical Assistance Center
- Safety net act to expand crisis services, school-based mental health programs and essential community supports and services to offset historic underfunding

For further details, please visit CBH's Web site, www.mdcbh.org . Additional listings and information are available through the Mental Health Association of Maryland's Web site, <http://www.mhamd.com> and through NAMI's Web site, www.NAMI.org (click on advocacy and bills).

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

The Council thanked John Turner for testifying on behalf of the Council at the House Hearing on MHA's budget in Annapolis on February 6th. He was able to give a very brief summary. (See Attachment #4.)

The Behavioral Health Council Workgroup met in February (See Attachment #5) and finalized the SAMHSA's Center for Mental Health Services application to fund eight Planning Councils to join a National Learning Community. The goal is to help Planning councils transition to a Behavioral Health Planning Council through intensive technical assistance (TA). The application was submitted on February 14, 2013 on behalf of the Behavioral Health Council Workgroup.

The Executive Committee will not meet today.

The meeting was adjourned.

Please note, the Agenda for the April 16th Council meeting will be posted on the Advisory's Council's web page, under the resources section, on MHA's Web site www.dhmdh.maryland.gov/mha.